Private Flying

FROM the CLUBS

REDHILL

FOR the fortnight ended January 1, flying times totalled 76 hr. 35 min. at the Redhill Flying Club. Mr. W. E. Davis has gone solo, while Messrs. W. F. Rathbone and J. K. Maxwell have passed their "B" licence tests.

CAMBRIDGE

Flying times at Marshalls' School for the week ending on January 3 totalled twenty-one hours. The weather was very poor and for three days practically no flying could be done. Messrs. Gill and Cook joined the School and Mr. Bridge made his first solo.

C. A. S. C.

Better weather has resulted in a total of 11 hr. 50 min. being flown during the last week, including a flight by two machines to Gravesend, Mr. Carter making his first cross-country flight as pilot on this trip. Messrs. Gill and Cook have taken their initial flights with the Corps.

SOUTH COAST

Club aircraft flew thirty hours during last week. Mr. R. A. Couchman, who took his "A" licence recently, has now joined the Air Force with a Short Service commission. The annual general meeting of the Club will be held next Saturday and will be followed by a dinner dance at the airport.

DONCASTER

Owing to very bad weather and the fact that the Club closed down for a week for the Christmas holidays, flying hours for the month only amount to 5 hr. 10 min. A fancy dress carnival was held at the clubhouse on Monday, December 21, and was a great success. Mrs. R. L. Rhodes has joined as a new member.

PORTSMOUTH

Flying times for the week ended January 1, 1937, totalled 13 hr. 25 min., the total for the month of December being 75 hr. 50 min. Mr. P. R. Hornidge has qualified for his "A" licence and has gone solo, together with Miss A. Fawsitt and Mr. J. C. Ackerman. New members are Mrs. L. M. May and Mr. L. D. G. Morrison.

BRISTOL AND WESSEX

Total flying hours for December totalled 80½ hr., which is a Club record for that particular month, the three previous years being: 1935, 36 hr. 25 min.; 1934, 60 hr. 10 min.; 1933, 42 hr. 50 min. Mr. E. G. Goscombe has gone solo, while Miss H. Pitman has passed her "A" licence tests. Mr. B. M. Davison has joined as a new member.

HERTS AND ESSEX

Club aircraft compiled 4,096 hr. 42 min. during 1936. Eleven days were available for flying during the fortnight ended December 31, the number of hours being logged amounting to 100 hr. 59 min. Messrs. Seddon-Holmes and Slaughter have gone solo, and Messrs. MacGregor and Van Leer have passed their passenger tests. The annual Broxbourne Flitch will take place in the clubhouse during the evening of Sunday next.

HANWORTH

Owing to the Christmas holidays flying times at the London Air Park Flying Club dropped considerably during the last week. The Club dance held on New Year's Eve at the Hanworth Park Hotel was a great success, and was attended by about 150 people, which included members of the Caravan Club, who held their Christmas meet at Hanworth. Several new private members are housing their aeroplanes in the hangars of the Club.

MAIDSTONE

Machines of the Malling Aero Club flew 72 hr. 50 min. during November, and 57 hr. 55 min. during December. These figures may be regarded as very satisfactory in view of the bad weather experienced during the last two months. Flying hours for 1936 were slightly more than double those for 1935. The Club's recently acquired Hawker Tomtit is proving very popular with members who want something more "advanced."

LIVERPOOL

Weather conditions during the month of December have been bad and for a number of days Club flying was at a complete standstill, bringing the total number of hours down to sixty-one. Providing enough support is forthcoming a night-landing competition will be held at Speke on Saturday, January 16, while night flying will be held at Speke on Thursday, January 7, commencing at 7 p.m. A treasure hunt will also be held at Hooton on Saturday, January 9, commencing at 8.15 p.m.

LONDON

The flying time for the last fortnight amounted to 47 hr. 25 min., the Christmas holidays coming in between. Mr. D. Howell has made his first solo flight and completed the tests for his "A" licence. He was very fortunate in having a spell of good weather which enabled him to go solo and complete the tests for his "A" two days afterwards. Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Clayton have also completed the tests for their "A" licences. New members are Messrs. H. J. Aldington, A. J. Green, and R. A. Chalmers.

BORDER

Again last week there were high gusty winds at Carlisle, reaching gale force at times and playing havoc with the windsocks. Needless to say, little flying has been possible and instruction has been confined mostly to blind flying. The committee and officials of the Border Flying Club hope to pay a semi-official visit to the Newcastle Club next Sunday and it is their intention to pay, each month, similar visits to all neighbouring flying clubs. The Club also intend to arrange a dawn patrol on Sunday morning, January 31.

CROYDON

There has not been a great deal of flying lately at the Croydon Flying Club on account of bad weather and the usual festivities, but the Club's machines flew 68 hr. 50 min. during the three weeks ended January 2, 1937. Mr. F. C. Nottingham has gone solo after only ten hours' dual, while Mr. D. Beaumont has made several flights to Guernsey in a Puss Moth, on one occasion having to land at night with only the lights of a car to guide him. Flt. Lt. Tattenball is taking a course of blind flying. The directors and members of the Club wish all members of other flying clubs a happy and prosperous New Year.

BROOKLANDS

The school and club reopened on Friday, January 1, and in spite of low cloud and drizzle seven hours' flying was logged on the first day. Dr. Sanson was the first member to start activities in the New Year, and Miss Jayne Paget, who has now obtained her "A" licence, did a considerable amount of solo flying. The fixtures for the coming month are as follows: Sunday, January 10, a house party at 5 p.m.; Sunday, January 17, a dance at 4.15; Saturday, January 23, annual general meeting at 4 p.m.; Sunday, January 24, a lecture on navigation at 5 p.m.; and Sunday, January 31, a height judging competition at 3 p.m.

The Isle of Man Again

LAST year's Isle of Man races were such a success that they will be held again this year on May 29 and May 31—Saturday and Monday. On the first day the London-Douglas handicap race will be held, and on the second there will be two round-the-Island events, one for machines up to 75 h.p. and the other of the open-handicap variety.

Capt. R. H. Stocken (3, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1) will again be the general organiser for the Douglas committee, and all enquiries should be addressed to him.

The Oasis Meeting

THE Royal Aero Club of Egypt has asked the R.Ae.C. to notify intending competitors that the third International Oasis Meeting will take place at Cairo during the five days February 22-26.

The closing date of entries is January 15 and the fee is £5 5s. Late entries will be received up to February 7, at double fees. Full particulars of the meeting can be obtained on application to the R.Ae.C., 119, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

The Egyptian organisers announce that no expenses will be incurred by the competitors other than the cost of fuel needed during the races, and that this fuel will be supplied at reduced prices. Two of the personnel of each aircraft, namely, the pilot and a passenger, will be the guests of the R.Ae.C. of Egypt throughout the meeting. Permits to fly to Egypt will be granted without fee.

For Cirrus-Hermes Users

A WELL-BOUND, loose-leaf Cirrus-Hermes engine instruction manual has been published by Cirrus-Hermes Co., Ltd., Brough, Yorks. Space for personal notes is provided, and the handbook will be kept up to date if changes of address are notified. The price of 4s. 6d. covers the cost of all amendments and the postage.

Weather or No

LAST year the Airwork School of Flying, which is only debarred from activity by Mondays, Q.B.I. and upwards of "Force 5" on the Beaufort Scale, was able to fly on 173 days out of the 365. The comparative figures were 217 in 1935, 239 in 1934, and 281 in 1933. In November only six days were flyable. Q.B.I. was continuously in force, with brief intervals around midday, for over a week towards the end of the month, which was the worst since 1933.